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CINCPAC

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E. O. 11652 - GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CB

SUBJ: SECRETARY' S FOREIGN POLICY REPORT

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. TEXT OF SECTION ON CAMBODIA IN SECRETARY' S 1972 FOREIGN POLICY REPORT SCHEDULED FOR RELEASE APRIL 19 FOLLOWS IN FULL: " THE NEUTRALITY, INDEPENDENCE, AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC IS A KEY POINT OF US POLICY IN THIS AREA. IN THE FACE OF GRAVE MILITARY THREATS TO THE REPUBLIC FROM THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AND VIET CONG, WE HAVE PURSUED OUR POLICY OF GRANTING MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO PHNOM PENH TO ENABLE CAMBODIA TO SURVIVE AND DEFEND ITSELF. FOLLOWING THE GENERAL CEASEFIRE IN VIETNAM ON JANUARY 27,1973, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC (GKR) ANNOUNCED A UNILATERAL CEASEFIRE FOR OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS EFFECTIVE 24 HOURS LATER IN ORDER TO PERMIT THE COMMUNIST VIETNAMESE FORCES TO DEPART IN PEACE. UNFORTUNATELY, THE OTHER SIDE DID NOT RESPOND TO THIS ACTION, AND HOSTILITIES CONTINUED. THE GKR CONTINUES EFFORTS TO INITIATE CONTACTS THROUGH VARIOUS CHANNELS WITH INSURGENT ELEMENTS, BUT THE INSURGENTS HAVE ONLY REPEATED THEIR OPPOSITION TO ANY COMPROMISE WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF PRE-

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SIDENT LON NOL TO END THE FIGHTING.

THROUGHOUT 1972, HOWEVER, NORTH VIETNAMESE AND VIET CONG FORCES, ASSISTED BY THEIR KHMER INSURGENT ALLIES, ATTACKED POPULATION CENTERS AND ROUTES OF COMMUNICATION AS PART OF THEIR CONTINUING EFFORT TO DESTROY THE GOVERNMENT AND EVENTUALLY TO REPLACE IT WITH ONE AMENABLE TO THEIR IDEOLOGY. MOST OF THE FIGHTING WAS FOR CONTROL OF THE VITAL ROADS AND RIVERWAYS THAT CARRY FOOD AND MILITARY SUPPLIES TO GOVERNMENT FORCES AND TO THE CAPITAL AND TO PROTECT THE SUPPLYLINE TO VIETNAM.

IN MARCH 1972 THE BULK OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AND VIET CONG UNITS LEFT FROM CAMBODIAN BASES TO JOIN THE GENERAL INVASION OF SOUTH VIETNAM. ALSO IN MARCH SOVIET-MADE ROCKETS KILLED OVER 100 CIVILIANS IN PHNOM PENH, AND ENEMY TROOPS SUBJECTED THE CAPITAL TO SEVERAL SERIOUS GROUND ATTACKS. COMMUNIST TERRORISTS KEPT UP THEIR BOMBING, GRENADING, AND OTHER VIOLENCE, INCLUDING ATTEMPTS TO ASSASSINATE TWO SUCCESSIVE PRIME MINISTERS AND THE US CHARGE D' AFFAIRES.

THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO SUPPLY THE KHMER REPUBLIC'S LIGHT INFANTRY FORCE OF 220,000 MEN. US ECONOMIC AID FUNDS MORE THAN 50 PERCENT OF THE COUNTRY'S IMPORTS. IN FY 72 WE OBLIGATED \$180 MILLION FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND \$53.6 MILLION FOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE - ABOUT THE SAME AS IN THE PREVIOUS FISCAL YEAR.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC INSTITUTED A NUMBER OF FISCAL REFORMS RECOMMENDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND (IMF), INCLUDING CURRENCY DEVALUATION, ADOPTION OF A REALISTIC FOREIGN EXCHANGE SYSTEM, HIGHER TAXES AND INTEREST RATES. THE FIRST YEAR'S EXPERIENCE WITH THE EXCHANGE SUPPORT FUND, CREATED TO SHORE UP THE COUNTRY'S FOREIGN EXCHANGE REQUIREMENTS, HAS BEEN SATISFACTORY. EIGHT NATIONS, INCLUDING THE GKR, CONTRIBUTED ALMOST \$35 MILLION TO THE FUND IN 1972. PLANS ARE NOW BEING READIED FOR US AID FOR POSTWAR RECOVERY AND REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT.

DESPITE THE WAR THE GKR HAS BEEN ABLE TO ESTABLISH THE NEW REPUBLICAN INSTITUTIONS PROMISED IN 1970. A NEW CON-
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STITUTION DRAFTED IN EARLY 1972 WAS ACCEPTED BY A LARGE

MAJORITY. IN JUNE, MARSHAL LON NOL, THE INCUMBENT PRIME MINISTER, WAS ELECTED THE PRESIDENT OF CAMBODIA' S FIRST REPUBLIC. LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS WERE HELD IN AUGUST FOR A 126- MAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND A 40- MAN SENATE."

2. SPECIAL POINTS WORTHY OF HIGHLIGHT INCLUDE (A) US POLICY OF SUPPORT FOR KHMER NEUTRALITY, INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, (B) US AID IN RESPONSE TO KHMER REQUEST CAUSED BY FOREIGN MILITARY ACTS (C) VAIN EFFORTS BY GKR TO ACHIEVE CEASEFIRE, (D) ESTABLISHMENT OF RE-

PUBLICAN INSTITUTIONS DESPITE WAR AND (E) PLANS BEING READIED FOR US AID- POSTWAR RECOVERY AND REFUGEE RE- SETTLEMENT. ROGERS

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